



Availability Session for Gulfco Marine Maintenance Freeport, Texas

September 2005

This fact sheet will tell you about:

- Present status and issues
- Site description
- Site history
- Waste
- Contact information

Present Status and Issues

On September 27, 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold an Availability Session for the community regarding the signed Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) for a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Gulfco Marine Maintenance Site (Site).

The meeting will be held at Bridge Harbor Yacht center, 411 Sailfish Lane, Freeport, TX, at 6:00 PM. EPA representatives will be available to discuss the UAO and answer questions.

Site Description

The Site is located approximately 3 miles northeast of the city of Freeport, Texas, at 906 Marlin Avenue. The Site lies within the 100-year coastal flood plain along the north bank of the Intra-coastal Waterway between Oyster Creek to the east and the Old Brazos River Channel and the Dow Barge Canal to the west.

The Site is approximately 40 acres in size and the southern part of the Site drains to the south where it enters the Intra-coastal Waterway. Wetland areas are located North of the Site. The Chicot/Evangeline Aquifer system underlies the Site. At other locations it is a source of municipal and smaller public water supply systems in the Freeport area.

Site History

The Site operated as a barge cleaning facility from 1971 until 1998. Operations at the facility involved the cleaning, servicing, and repair of various types of barges, particularly chemical. Chemical barges were drained and pumped to remove remaining materials, which were then stored in tanks and sold as product. Each barge was washed with water or a detergent solution. Generated wash waters were stored either in surface impoundments until 1982, a floating barge, or on-Site storage tanks. The barges were allowed to air dry prior to initiating repair work such as welding and sandblasting.

The Site was proposed to the National Priorities List (NPL) on September 2, 2002, and included on the NPL on May 30, 2003.

Waste

The Site encompassed three buried and backfilled surface impoundments that received contaminated wash water from the barge cleaning operations, areas of contaminated soil, and releases to surface water and ground water. Contaminants include among other things 1,2-Dichloroethane, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and metals. While a Site Screening Inspection sampling event was conducted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in January 2000 and a subsequent Expanded Site Inspection was also conducted by TCEQ in January 2001, the exact volume of waste at the Site has yet to be determined. This information will be obtained during the RI/FS.

For more information, please contact.....

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Inquiries from the Media should be directed to David Bary, EPA Office of External Affairs 214-665-2208.

Information Repositories.....

Freeport Branch Library
410 Brazosport Blvd.
Freeport, TX 77541
979-233-3622
Ms. Margaret Janke

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Records Management Center
12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg. E
Austin, TX 78753-3087

U.S. EPA Region 6 Library
1445 Ross Avenue, Ste. 12D13
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Please register at the 7th Floor
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U.S. EPA on the Internet www.epa.gov/region6 or www.epa.gov/region6/superfund

If you have any questions or would like your name added to the mailing list, please call 1-800-533-3508.

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